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which that he had verified his statements on this head by references to the documents which prove them to be true. On the whole, the work is one evincing considerable research and information; but it is sometimes too intemperate towards Lord Mountcashel, and too adulatory towards the bishop. It clearly establishes that which we had thought was pretty generally allowed, that the improvement of the Irish Church Establishment in general, has kept pace with the very marked improvement in the selection of bishops, since the union; and that a gradual reformation is even now in course of steady and progressive operation, through the natural and legitimate channel of the constituted ecclesiastical authorities.

Irish Priests and English Landlords. By the Author of "Hyacinth O'Gara."—Dublin, R. M. Tims, 1830.

WE remember to have read "Hyacinth O'Gara" with considerable pleasure; there was an adherence to truth and nature in it which is rarely to be met with in books of that stamp. The idea was an odd one, it seemed borrowed from the history of Castle Rack-rent, one of the most powerful of Miss Edgeworth's national sketches, perhaps indeed the most profound of all. For the generations of squires in Castle Rack-rent, we had a succession of parsons in Hyacinth O'Gara, and the character of old Thady the chronicler is varied accordingly.

The present little work possesses the same excellencies as the former in the occasional touches of Irish national character and modes of expression; but there is, as might almost be expected, from the usual character of these politico-religious stories, a good deal of prejudice and consequent misrepresentation. We hold it to be directly unfair and reprehensible to make use of fiction as a vehicle for vilifying any class of men whatever. If Irish priests do evil, let their misdeeds be proved and punished either by the law of opinion, or by the law of the land. Let facts have due publicity, "and whip the rascals naked through the world," no matter who or what the said rascals happen to be; but let no man invent stories to hold up the members of any particular order, merely as such, to scorn or abhorrence. To us at least this seems a strange, though not unusual, departure from the plain dictates of high principle and honorable feeling. We do not mean to bring so heavy a charge against every one who has thought and acted differently in this respect; we know that many have done so with the most conscientious views, but we trust that on reflection, they will think with us, and employ their talents for the future in a manner more perfectly consistent with that pure love of all our fellow-creatures, which Catholic christianity so indispensably requires and enjoins, as the second great commandment in the law.

Studies in Natural History; exhibiting a popular view of the most striking and interesting objects of the Material World.—By W. Rhind.—Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; Simpkin and Marshall, London, 1830. 12mo.

THIS is a very pleasing book on a very pleasing subject. It is exceedingly agreeable to turn from the dull round of ordinary cares and vexations to the freshness of mighty nature. Mr. Rhind is a congenial spirit whom one can fol-

low with interest and advantage through the flowery fields of natural science, without the mind being wearied, or curiosity being dulled by too minute and tedious an investigation of any one of the multifarious subjects, which nature presents for consideration.

Outlines of Irish History, written for the use of young persons. 1 vol. 18mo. London, Harris.

THERE have now no fewer than three books of this class, on Irish history, recently issued from the press. We are very glad to see so much attention directed to a subject of such paramount importance as the history of our country, and the present little work, though a very slight compilation, is rendered interesting, as the production of an English lady of rank, and intended for the use of her own children. The brevity of the outline may be conjectured when it is stated, that one small volume is made to extend from the origin of the Irish people to Emmett's insurrection in 1803. The political bias which pervades the work is that usually denominated liberal.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

AT present we can only give a cursory glance to this important subject. We naturally cast our eyes first on France; there the bias seems to be chiefly scientific, F. Cuvier and G. St. Hilaire (*Histoire naturelle des mammifères*) De Candolle (*Système naturel du règne végétal*) and Malte Brun (*Géographie*) are each employed, in his respective department. Politics seems to engross the minds of the French people, so that even their poets write on political subjects. Passing by the gay and sometimes licentious Béranger, the victim of royal and aristocratical wrath, we find the twin poets, Méry and Barthélemy, like him injudiciously brought before the public, by a political prosecution, and now starting afresh with their "Waterloo," a poem directed against Mons. Bourmont, one of the ministry.—The inexhaustible source opened to *Memoirs* by the republican and imperial governments, still continues to send forth new works, among which the memoirs of *Bourrienne* claim an important station, on account of the opportunity which the author possessed of observing the character and actions of Napoleon. Even the different corps engaged in the French army, during their eventful struggle, are beginning to find historians, and we have now the history of the Polish legions in the French service, by *Leonard Chodzko*.

In Germany, Caroline Pichler has written a new romance on the subject of the re-taking of Buda, (*Wiederersbergerung Ofens*) while by her contributions, with those of other literary characters, among whom *Tieck* holds a distinguished rank, the German annuals maintain their ancient fame, though very much inferior in point of illustrations, to those of England. The venerable patriarch of German literature, *Goethe*, has seen his eightieth anniversary celebrated by his enthusiastic countrymen, and under his auspices have just appeared, *Letters* addressed to him by *Schiller*, during the years 1806 and 7, in which are some interesting particulars respecting the latter's *Wallenstein*. The zeal for ancient literature, for which the Germans were first distinguished by the remainder of Europe, is maintained at present

by *Niebuhr* in his publication of the *Byzantine Classics*; and their attachment to the philosophy of *Kant* is evinced by several new publications on the subject.

Italy has many learned men in her universities, especially at Padua, but there has not lately appeared any thing of consequence from them. She may be proud of *Manzoni*, who certainly approaches very near the author of *Waverley*, and who has rendered the Literature of his country a service, by introducing a new species of it, almost unknown there heretofore; but he has not escaped the rude hand of criticism among his own countrymen. Where the sway of Austria prevails, the voice of literature is almost or altogether silenced.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

The Foreign Review, No. IX.—London, Black, Young and Young.

ALTHOUGH many of our readers must be aware of the fact, it may be necessary to mention, for the information of some of them, that there have been for some time past, two Quarterly Reviews published in London, which are devoted solely to foreign literature. They, however, frequently avail themselves of the opportunities to discuss subjects of domestic interest afforded by foreign books, which bear a relation to our affairs, or by the review of translations of our own books, which are published on the continent. Of these two Reviews, the *Foreign Quarterly* professes Whig principles in politics, and is written with much care, and in a style which generally aims more at elegance than strength. The *Foreign Review*, the last number of which we are about more particularly to notice, espouses Ultra Tory principles in its political articles, and it is generally written with much spirit and vigor. The last number is perhaps the best in every respect, which has appeared of this Review, abounding with information and amusement, conveyed in a tone of lively force, which seizes upon the attention, and makes an impression upon the mind that is not likely soon to be effaced. The sturdy healthy tone of the articles of this Journal is better suited, we should think, to meet the public taste, than the more elaborated style of its rival, although both Reviews are deserving of much praise. The *Foreign Quarterly* is more heard of in the newspapers, probably from some peculiar sources of private influence, or from more adroit management in this particular; but the *Foreign Review*, notwithstanding a little exuberance of energy in which it sometimes indulges, will amply repay those, who chuse to judge rather by reading for themselves, than by trusting to what may be inferred respecting it, from more frequently hearing of its rival.

It is not exactly consistent with our plan to review reviewers at any length, nor have we space to do more than point attention to a few of the articles, but we should not do justice to the impression which the first article of the present number has made upon ourselves, did we not mention particularly the Review of the life and writings of *Jean Paul Friedrich Richter*. Although the article can give no more than a glimpse of the life and writings of this extraordinary man, yet it affords a sufficient view of the glorious struggle of a bold independent and manly mind, against the bitterest circumstances of severe poverty, to prove